

**THERAPEUTIC ELECTRICITY AND ULTRAVIOLET RADIATION**—Volume IV of Physical Medicine Library—Edited by Sidney Licht, M.D., Honorary Member, British Association of Physical Medicine, Danish Society of Physical Medicine, and the French National Society of Physical Medicine. Elizabeth Licht, Publisher, 360 Fountain Street, New Haven, Connecticut, 1959. 373 pages, \$10.00.

This book is a continuation of the series of excellent books by the present editor for a Physical Medicine Library. The book is divided into two parts, "Therapeutic Electricity," and "Ultraviolet Radiation." By therapeutic electricity, the author includes clinical electrical stimulation, iontophoresis, and a chapter on "electro-sleep therapy," by a Russian physician, Dr. Obrosow.

The use of iontophoresis or "ion transfer," is probably unknown to most physicians. This involves the use of electrical current to "drive in" therapeutic medicinal ions for certain conditions of local infection, skin disease, or analgesics. The chapter on electro-sleep therapy is an interesting one, but this method of treatment for psychiatric patients has been little used in this country and the particular chapter does not stimulate one to try its use. There is probably the most extensive bibliography of any book on the above subjects but actually little new clinical information is given under the stimulation and iontophoresis chapters that cannot be found in any standard text on physical medicine.

The section on ultraviolet radiation presents an excellent review in a very thorough fashion, but again, offers little which cannot be found in any other standard text on Physical Medicine for the use of the clinician. It does list the most inclusive bibliography that this reviewer has ever seen on the subject.

This book is an excellent reference text and should be placed in medical libraries but would not have much value for the average practicing physician other than those men who are physiatrists or otherwise involved in the practice of physical medicine.

S. MALVERN DORINSON, M.D.

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**A DOCTOR DISCUSSES THE MENOPAUSE**—G. Lombard Kelly, A.B., B.S.Med., M.D., President Emeritus and formerly Professor of Anatomy, Medical College of Georgia, formerly Research Associate in Anatomy, Cornell University Medical School, member American Association of Anatomists; contributor to scientific journals in the fields of Physiology and Endocrinology. The Budlong Press, 5428 N. Virginia Avenue, Chicago 25, Ill., 1959. 90 pages. Patient price: \$1.50.

This is a small paper-bound booklet of some 90 pages written expressly as an aid to the physician in explaining the facts and implications of the menopause to his women patients. The first six chapters are devoted to the anatomy and physiology of the organs involved and are brief and easily understandable. Surprisingly, there are several statements of supposed facts which are incorrect, such as that the right and left ovaries alternate in ovulating, and that sexual response is dependent upon the presence of the female sex hormone, and the implication the deficiencies in sexual response can be remedied by administering hormones. However, these statements are of comparatively minor importance with respect to the overall presentation for lay consumption.

Generally, the information and advice are sound and well expressed. There are chapters on the evils of self-medication, good mental health, feminine hygiene, preservation of figure and good mental health, the early detection of genital cancer, and sexual and other adjustments that must be made at this time of life, and in old age. The advice regarding sex at and after the menopause is especially good.

The publishers state that they would be happy to send a desk copy to any physician who requests it. It is the opinion of your reviewer that this booklet could be used by physicians to great advantage on many occasions when dealing with menopausal patients because it is certainly true that much of the emotional upset and physical suffering seen at this time of life is based upon ignorance of the facts and their implications.

DANIEL G. MORTON, M.D.

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**THE DOCTOR BUSINESS**—Richard Carter. Publicity Department, Doubleday & Company, Inc., 575 Madison Avenue, New York 22, New York, 1958. 283 pages, \$4.00.

This book is a well-written and cleverly designed exposition of a point of view advocated principally by the more radical elements of our society. The author admits his prejudice against the American Medical Association and medical organizations in general and proceeds to belabor them whenever possible. He is an artist in quoting out of context and expanding a grain of truth into a wheat field of distortion.

A portion of this tendency may arise from a lack of understanding but the pattern is so general that it is difficult to escape the conclusion that it represents intentional distortion. The occasional complimentary reference to the American Medical Association or some other medical organization has the appearance of an effort to establish an aura of objectivity.

The jacket and Appendix E indicate that the author has engaged in "extensive research" into the economic aspects of medical care. His statements establish the process of retrospective research designed to support conclusions drawn in advance and not based upon the scientific method.

The book is a compendium of the assaults upon and the arguments traditionally used against organized medicine. The arrogance of the author is surprising.

This rehash of cliches, part truths, distortions and misrepresentations adds little to our knowledge of the methods of those who would remodel the distribution of medical care according to their own ideas, regardless of the effect it might have upon the quality of that medical care. It has the value of having assembled in one volume substantially all the arguments which have been or could be used against the system which has produced the best medical care the world has ever known.

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**SCHIZOPHRENIA—An Integrated Approach**—Edited by Alfred Auerback, M.D., Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, University of California School of Medicine, San Francisco; Speaker, Assembly of District Branches, American Psychiatric Association. The Ronald Press Company, 15 East 26th Street, New York 10, N. Y., 1959. 224 pages, \$5.50.

This book consists of a collection of individual presentations by outstanding men on one or another aspect of schizophrenia. There are chapters covering neurophysiological contributions to the understanding of schizophrenia, biochemical investigations in schizophrenia, psychological and sociological factors in schizophrenia, and various aspects of the treatment of schizophrenia.

Schizophrenia still remains one of the greatest medical challenges today—and there is no pretense in this book of having the answers. Rather, the broad avenues of investigation that characterize present-day research in schizophrenia are presented in a way that should be of interest to the members of the various disciplines who are studying this disease.

N. Q. BRILL, M.D.